

marking on the vessel, as required by claims 21 and 23. The Examiner's obviousness rationale does not supplement this deficiency in Zahniser.

Thus, Applicants submit that claims 21 and 23 are not obvious over Zahniser, and as such, respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of these claims.

Withdrawn claims 30-38

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 30-38 are allowable over the cited art for at least the same reasons, set forth above, that claims 1, 4-15, 21-24, 26, 28, and 29 are allowable over the cited art.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now allowable over the cited references. Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if any remaining issue(s) can be resolved through a telephonic discussion.

Respectfully submitted,  
VISTA IP LAW GROUP, LLP

Dated: March 4, 2009 By: /DavidTBurse/  
David T. Burse  
Registration No. 37,104

Customer Number  
**41696**  
PATENT TRADEMARK  
OFFICE  
VISTA IP LAW GROUP LLP  
12930 Saratoga Avenue, Suite D-2  
Saratoga, CA 95070  
Phone (408) 777-2905  
Fax (408) 877-1662